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**CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)
REQUEST TRANSMITTAL**

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.
(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable.

Address to:

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231**

Attorney Docket No. of Prior Application	23660-00611
First Named Inventor	Howard Tanner, et al.
Examiner Name	J. Thissell
Group Art Unit	3763
Express Mail Label No.	

continuation or divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d).

(continued prosecution application (CPA) of prior application number 09/108,189
filed on July 1, 1998, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE SURGICAL REPAIR
OF ANEURYSMS

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §71. Effective May 29, 2000, a CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000).

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning the other application or applications in the file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request. 37 CFR 1.78(a).

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

1. Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.

2. A preliminary amendment is enclosed.

3. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53(d)(4).
a. **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:
.....
.....
b. The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.

4. A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.

5. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
a. PTO-1449
b. Copies of IDS Citations

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

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CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) or (j))	-20* =	0	x \$ _____ =	\$
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i))	-3** =	0	x \$ _____ =	
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+ \$ _____ =	
				BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)	370.00
				Total of above Calculations =	0
	Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 CFR 1.27).				
	* Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent. ** Reissue independent claims over original patent.			TOTAL =	370.00

6. Small entity status: Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. _____

- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.17.
- Fees required under 37 CFR 1.18.

8. A check in the amount of \$ **370.00** is enclosed.

9. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

10. Applicant requests suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103(b) for a period of _____ months (not to exceed 3 months) and the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) is enclosed.

11. New Attorney Docket Number, if desired _____
[Prior application Attorney Docket Number will carryover to this CPA unless a new Attorney Docket Number has been provided herein.]

12. a. Receipt For Facsimile Transmitted CPA (PTO/SB/29A)
b. Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized, See MPEP 503)

13. Other: Request for Extension of Time (One Month) _____

NOTE: The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA
UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.

14. NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Customer Number or Bar Code Label

25243

or

 New correspondence address below

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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15. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print or Type)	JOHN N. COULBY
Signature	
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,565
Date	August 12, 2002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

Application of: Howard Tanner et al.

Serial No.: 09/108,189 (CPA) Examiner: J. Thissel

Filed: July 1, 1998 Group Art Unit: 3763

For: AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING A SURGICAL PROCEDURE

Attorney Docket No.: 23660-00611

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-referenced CPA continuation patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 110-113 without prejudice.

Please add new Claims 115-126 as follows:

115. (New) A method of repairing an aneurysm in a vessel using a sheath device having a housing with a first end portion and a second end portion, said method comprising the steps of:

introducing the first end portion of the sheath device into the vessel such that the second end portion is positioned outside of the vessel;

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